



QUESTIONS BOOKLET



GRADE 12 DIPLOMA EXAMINATION

English 30

Part B: Reading (Multiple Choice)

January 1990

Alberta
EDUCATION

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**GRADE 12 DIPLOMA EXAMINATION
ENGLISH 30**

Part B: Reading (Multiple Choice)

QUESTIONS BOOKLET

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Part B of the English 30 Diploma Examination has 70 questions in the Questions Booklet and seven reading selections in the Readings Booklet.

**BE SURE THAT YOU HAVE AN ENGLISH 30 QUESTIONS BOOKLET AND
AN ENGLISH 30 READINGS BOOKLET.**

YOU HAVE 2 HOURS TO COMPLETE THIS EXAMINATION.

BE SURE TO USE AN HB PENCIL.

You may **NOT** use a dictionary, thesaurus, or other reference materials.

On the ANSWER SHEET provided, mark the CORRECT or BEST answer for each question as shown in the example below.

Example

Which month has 31 days?

- A.** February
- B.** April
- C.** November
- D.** December

Answer Sheet

A	B	C	D
①	②	③	●

Mark only one answer for each question. If you change an answer, erase your first mark completely. Answer all questions.

JANUARY 1990

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I. Read “Smiles Cafe” on page 1 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 1 to 9.

1. The context of the poem suggests that for the fisherman, the phrase “nights like this” (line 5) refers to nights that invite
 - A. rest and relaxation
 - B. shelter and reflection
 - C. rebellion and remorse
 - D. loneliness and anxiety

2. The imagery in lines 11 to 16 suggests MAINLY that the fisherman’s work was
 - A. harsh
 - B. defeating
 - C. complicated
 - D. constraining

3. That the fisherman adapted to the demands of his job is directly indicated by the phrase
 - A. “his blunt calloused fingers” (line 10)
 - B. “Nails worn to nothing” (line 15)
 - C. “his first one / too thin for this work” (lines 20-21)
 - D. “the ache still in his bones” (line 31)

4. The poem’s refrain “This is what you can hope for” (lines 1 and 23) refers to
 - A. internalized knowledge and experience
 - B. personal challenge and opportunity
 - C. physical discomfort and scarring
 - D. personal defeat and despair

5. The word “conglomerates” in line 25 means
 - A. creditors
 - B. workers’ unions
 - C. large companies
 - D. legal procedures

Continued

6. To the fisherman, his scars represent
- A. wasted effort
 - B. heroic struggles
 - C. confirmation of experience
 - D. shameful signs of manual labor
7. The line that MOST DIRECTLY suggests the fisherman's regret is
- A. "This is what you can hope for" (line 1)
 - B. "gently touching the scars on his hands" (line 9)
 - C. "The halibut skates laid out like prayers" (line 17)
 - D. "Skills no one will know again" (line 35)
8. The fisherman's attitude toward the life-style of independent fishermen is MOST DIRECTLY implied by
- A. "to crawl inside / on nights like this" (lines 4-5)
 - B. "Coffee and chips, the steady / drumming of rain outside" (lines 6-7)
 - C. "the last of the wild salmon / gutted on factory boats" (lines 27-28)
 - D. "Something that can't be lost for money, / that no one can take with legislation" (lines 33-34)
9. The MAJOR implication of the poem is that
- A. mastery is its own reward
 - B. simplicity produces satisfaction
 - C. lack of status may result in bitterness
 - D. careers demanding physical endurance are rare

II. Read the excerpt “How It Feels to Be Shot” on pages 2 and 3 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 10 to 16.

10. The ironic turning point in the speaker’s early experience with warfare is indicated by the phrase
- A. “a Fascist sniper got me instead” (lines 11-12)
 - B. “no pain in the ordinary sense” (line 32)
 - C. “I felt a vague satisfaction” (lines 37-38)
 - D. “I found that I had no voice” (lines 42-43)
11. The phrase “There was the usual fuss” (line 34) is used to indicate that the speaker is
- A. sympathetic toward excitable behavior
 - B. familiar with such situations
 - C. able to recognize a crisis
 - D. casual about suffering
12. The speaker’s attitude toward the soldier who shot him is one of
- A. casual interest
 - B. warm friendship
 - C. righteous indignation
 - D. anxious bewilderment
13. The speaker’s initial response to his sensation of pain is one of
- A. indifference
 - B. confusion
 - C. despair
 - D. relief
14. Which of the following statements is paradoxical?
- A. “it was the sensation of being *at the centre* of an explosion” (line 21)
 - B. “When I tried to speak I found that I had no voice” (lines 42-43)
 - C. “I took it for granted that I was done for” (lines 51-52)
 - D. “the pain reassured me” (line 72)

Continued

15. The speaker's detailed description of the incident suggests his
- A. preoccupation with conflict
 - B. desire to document an outstanding endeavor
 - C. tendency to dramatize unremarkable occurrences
 - D. fascination with the processes of human responses
16. The speaker's interest in analysing his own thoughts (lines 57-58) indicates that he is
- A. confused
 - B. reflective
 - C. egotistical
 - D. compassionate

III. Read the excerpt from the story “Print Dresses” on pages 4 to 6 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 17 to 26.

17. As the narrator addresses her thoughts to her husband, she sees her husband as
- A. envying her opportunity to dwell in this house
 - B. being remote from her present experiences
 - C. wilfully challenging her motives
 - D. seeking to please her
18. The narrator chooses to isolate herself in the house MAINLY because she
- A. feels antagonistic toward the aunts
 - B. recognizes the need to come to terms with her family
 - C. wishes to avoid distractions in the process of relating to her grandmother’s life
 - D. recognizes the need to dispense with the relics of the past as efficiently as possible
19. Which statement symbolically reinforces the grandmother’s elusiveness (line 117)?
- A. “I didn’t intend it either” (line 21)
 - B. “I cannot be certain which of the women is my grandmother” (lines 35-36)
 - C. “Grandmother’s bedroom is sparsely furnished” (line 50)
 - D. “All it required was a little dusting” (lines 50-51)
20. The key to the house (line 20) may be seen as representing the key to the
- A. family’s future
 - B. aunts’ reluctance
 - C. narrator’s secrets
 - D. narrator’s understanding

Continued

21. The narrator does not ask her aunts to disclose the past (lines 37-41) because she
- A. wishes to discover it in her own way
 - B. is unable to communicate freely with them
 - C. knows that their information will not be reliable
 - D. is jealous of their close relationship with her grandmother
22. The grandmother abandoned the “open field” (line 57) because she
- A. outgrew idleness
 - B. was repelled by nature
 - C. enjoyed solitude away from the children
 - D. wanted to set an example for the children
23. Early in this excerpt, the narrator suggests that her grandmother was a figure of strength; lines 122 and 123 suggest that the grandmother was
- A. physically fragile
 - B. naturally beautiful
 - C. emotionally insecure
 - D. psychologically erratic
24. The narrator’s description of her aunts in lines 76 to 81 indicates that she bases her impressions on
- A. irritation
 - B. curiosity
 - C. tolerance
 - D. familiarity
25. The narrator’s statement “Their prints . . . suit me better than the things I brought from the city” (lines 112-114) implies that she
- A. has lost her sense of reality
 - B. is identifying with her grandmother
 - C. is soliciting her husband’s approval
 - D. has a perverse desire to mock her aunts
26. The thematic conflict in this excerpt is based MAINLY upon
- A. rural life-style and urban life-style
 - B. marital identity and individual identity
 - C. youthful life-style and mature life-style
 - D. evolving identity and established identity

- IV. Read the excerpt from the play *Caesar and Cleopatra* on pages 7 to 10 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 27 to 40.
27. The word that BEST describes Cleopatra's manner in lines 5 to 15 is
- A. naive
 - B. restrained
 - C. submissive
 - D. calculating
28. Caesar looks at Cleopatra with "*complete coldness*" (line 9) because he
- A. cannot tolerate insubordination
 - B. disapproves of her rebuking Rufio
 - C. perceives the transparency of her deceit
 - D. is disturbed by the demonstration of violence
29. When Lucius says "We are quits now, as to killing — you and I" (lines 34-35), he means that
- A. he is weary of strife and bloodshed
 - B. both he and Caesar are responsible for murder
 - C. he believes Ptolemy ordered Pothinus to be killed
 - D. both he and Caesar are responsible for seeking peace
30. Cleopatra is "*greatly emboldened*" (line 39) because she
- A. senses an ally in Rufio
 - B. recognizes Caesar's need for defence
 - C. is relieved that the assassination succeeded
 - D. hopes that the death will strengthen her royal claim
31. Cleopatra determined that Pothinus must die MAINLY because he had
- A. insulted her
 - B. betrayed her
 - C. supported Ptolemy
 - D. conspired against Caesar

Continued

32. In appealing for the support of Lucius, Apollodorus, and Britannus (lines 49-57), Cleopatra hopes to
- A. confirm her goodness
 - B. manipulate Caesar's reaction
 - C. undermine Caesar's popularity
 - D. prove herself a powerful leader
33. In comparing the remarks of Britannus and Caesar on the subject of punishment (lines 58-60 and 65-77), the MOST SIGNIFICANT difference is that
- A. Britannus seeks glory, Caesar seeks peace
 - B. Britannus is sentimental, Caesar is hardened
 - C. Britannus has a sensitive social conscience, Caesar does not
 - D. Britannus believes in absolutes, Caesar recognizes their peril
34. In lines 65 to 77, Caesar puts forth the belief that
- A. power exacts payment
 - B. diplomacy limits power
 - C. violence begets violence
 - D. expediency justifies murder
35. In which of the following quotations does the speaker use verbal irony?
- A. "He is as dead as Pompey" (line 34)
 - B. "he insulted me — me, the Queen" (line 48)
 - C. "I am only a dreamer" (lines 85-86)
 - D. "Caesar's head is ripe" (line 131)
36. The dominant tone of Caesar's speech in lines 98 to 106 is one of
- A. quiet resignation
 - B. angry indignation
 - C. understated displeasure
 - D. deliberate contemplation

Continued

37. Rufio is characterized as being MAINLY
- A. opinionated and seeking recognition
 - B. respectful to and admiring of Caesar
 - C. impressed by and attracted to Cleopatra
 - D. self-serving, concerned for his own welfare
38. Caesar's wisdom is evident in his recognition that
- A. Cleopatra is vulnerable because she is a woman
 - B. Pothinus was aiding Ptolemy in an act of betrayal
 - C. Pothinus' freedom was the key to calm in the city
 - D. Cleopatra's claim to the throne was hopeless from the outset
39. Caesar says "Oh, ignoble, ignoble!" (line 122) because
- A. Cleopatra has challenged Caesar
 - B. the Egyptians have disgraced themselves
 - C. Cleopatra is behaving without dignity or courage
 - D. the Egyptians are about to commit acts of vengeance
40. The trait that is common to both Caesar and Cleopatra is
- A. pride
 - B. defiance
 - C. diplomacy
 - D. deceitfulness

V. Read the excerpt from the play *Henry VI*, Part 3, on pages 11 and 12 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 41 to 48.

41. King Henry's statement "Now one the better, then another best" (line 10) refers to
- A. winners and losers
 - B. commanders and soldiers
 - C. recurrent changes in the surge of battles
 - D. conquest dependent upon the strength of soldiers
42. Which statement BEST summarizes the son's reflections in lines 18 to 23?
- A. War is gratifying to the strong.
 - B. Men go to war for material gain.
 - C. In war, soldiers often feel remorse.
 - D. In war, the victor may soon become the victim.
43. Line 24, "Who's this? O God! it is my father's face," parallels the line
- A. "Weep, wretched man, I'll aid thee tear for tear" (line 37)
 - B. "Ah no, no, no, it is mine only son" (line 45)
 - C. "Was ever son so ru'd a father's death" (line 63)
 - D. "For I have murdered where I should not kill" (line 72)
44. When King Henry appeals to heaven: "Wither one rose, and let the other flourish; / If you contend, a thousand lives must wither" (lines 55-56), he is pleading for
- A. victory over the enemy
 - B. an end to the bloodshed
 - C. youth to take the place of age
 - D. age to take the place of youth
45. The word "contend" in line 56 means
- A. flee
 - B. fear
 - C. delay
 - D. resolve

Continued

46. In lines 57 to 62, the three characters share the concern that others will respond to their actions with
- A. pity
 - B. grief
 - C. disbelief
 - D. condemnation
47. In lines 63 to 65, the playwright uses parallelism to emphasize the
- A. terrors of war
 - B. compulsion of duty
 - C. grief of the speakers
 - D. pain of the murdered men
48. King Henry is “more woeful” (line 75) than either the father or the son MAINLY because the
- A. king must bear collective grief
 - B. king’s actions will be misunderstood
 - C. battle has not gone well for the king
 - D. subjects will not feel the king’s grief

- VI. Read the essay “Belfast: The Allure of the ‘Troubles’ ” on pages 13 and 14 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 49 to 62.
49. The title phrase “The Allure of the ‘Troubles’ ” is paradoxical in that it points out the contradiction between the
- A. sensible and the foolish
 - B. familiar and the unfamiliar
 - C. appealing and the threatening
 - D. experienced and the inexperienced
50. The author suggests that the war in Northern Ireland provides the Northern Irish with a
- A. sense of purpose in their daily existence
 - B. sense of control in the larger nuclear struggle
 - C. broader economic base in a time of depression
 - D. means by which they can create national heroes
51. The author believes that it is presumptuous “to do their thinking for them” (line 3) because
- A. Northern Ireland is a strange place
 - B. peace is an unrealistic alternative to war
 - C. perpetual war strengthens the fabric of society
 - D. outsiders interpret from an outsider’s point of view
52. Which of the following ironic observations MOST DIRECTLY implies the powerful effect of habit?
- A. “It is a strange place where peace is unknown in the lifetime of almost half the population, but Northern Ireland fills the bill; and like everyone else, people there prefer the familiar.” (lines 5-7)
 - B. “Fighting a war is certainly a better *raison d’être* than none at all, which is what confronts so many people in the British Isles of the 1980s.” (lines 25-26)
 - C. “Another aspect of war is how significant it can make you feel in the world picture.” (lines 48-49)
 - D. “There is also, for those who enjoy that sort of thing, the excitement of participating in an atrocity and then going home to watch it replayed on the six o’clock news.” (lines 62-64)

Continued

53. The statement that illustrates the lack of compromise that is characteristic of the war in Northern Ireland is
- A. “but peace only on his own impossible terms. Otherwise he wants war” (lines 12-13)
 - B. “To me, reading this in London, the only ‘possible catastrophe’ is nuclear annihilation” (lines 41-42)
 - C. “It may well be a delusion to avoid the issue, but it must also be a relief” (lines 46-47)
 - D. “None of this can be held against the people of Belfast: Who wouldn’t enjoy being in such demand?” (lines 57-58)
54. The author’s daughter objects to the ex-paramilitary man (line 14) because this man represents people who
- A. are attracted to adventure
 - B. are psychologically inhibited
 - C. have abandoned a sense of morality
 - D. have developed dependency on violent behavior
55. The old Englishman’s response to World War II (lines 30-32) MAINLY contrasts the effects of
- A. belief and skepticism
 - B. acceptance and rejection
 - C. involvement and inactivity
 - D. offensiveness and defensiveness
56. “Being in Belfast is like being in a magnetic field: everything points one way or the other and lines up” (lines 33-34) means that the war
- A. blocks out the greater fear of nuclear annihilation
 - B. gives Northern Ireland a prominent position on the world political map
 - C. imposes a mechanical distinction between friend and foe, an automatic reaction that determines identity
 - D. adds drama and excitement to the mediocrity of daily existence, satisfying the universal lust for blood

Continued

57. The Irish historian's quotation in lines 39 to 41 implies that
- A. catastrophe is inevitable
 - B. nuclear annihilation is imminent
 - C. society traditionally distrusts education
 - D. appropriate education could offer a solution
58. The author suggests that the Northern Irish are unconcerned about the threat of nuclear war MAINLY because they are
- A. preoccupied with their own war
 - B. convinced that they would not be affected
 - C. convinced that nuclear war would solve their grievances
 - D. relying on leaders to dissociate nuclear war from local conflict
59. The references to journalists and other observers (lines 51-61) emphasize the point that the
- A. media misinterpret the Irish troubles
 - B. unrest in Ireland stems from divided interest
 - C. media play a significant role in Northern Ireland
 - D. people in Northern Ireland have an inferiority complex
60. Lines 59 to 61 indicate that the healing effect of a "placebo" is
- A. permanent
 - B. dependable
 - C. sensational
 - D. psychological
61. The context of the "atrocities" (line 63) that the Northern Irish participate in implies that
- A. the poor continue to anticipate peace
 - B. this spectacle has become a way of life
 - C. the media have not overlooked discrepancies in life-style
 - D. chaotic events are best suited to capture the imagination
62. According to the author, the "allure" of Northern Ireland's troubles is that
- A. violence flourishes
 - B. victory is guaranteed
 - C. inhibitions are overcome
 - D. peace has nothing better to offer

- VII. Read the excerpt from the novel *Grain* on pages 15 to 18 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 63 to 70.**
- 63.** Gander's solitary nature is reinforced in lines 1 to 22 MAINLY through reference to his
- A. farming expertise
 - B. social withdrawal
 - C. social responsibility
 - D. nationalistic impulses
- 64.** Gander's choosing to fulfil his patriotic duty by growing wheat suggests, in context, that Gander
- A. is politically naive
 - B. is fearful of commitment
 - C. has conformed to society's expectations
 - D. has rationalized his aversion to the army
- 65.** Gander thinks that he would be at a disadvantage socially at the Burge party (lines 18-20) because of his
- A. intention to go alone
 - B. decision not to enlist
 - C. affection for Jo Burge
 - D. obligation to the Burge family
- 66.** That Gander is courageous in spite of his refusal to enlist in the army is MOST CLEARLY implied in
- A. “ ‘Guess I could take a chance with the rest’ ” (line 85)
 - B. “ ‘A boy who could do what you did — that day at the thresher — isn't afraid’ ” (lines 87-88)
 - C. “ ‘Besides, I got too much spirit to be a soldier’ ” (line 113)
 - D. “ ‘If I'd been Fred I'd ha' hit 'im a poke in the eye’ ” (lines 119-120)

Continued

67. The phrase “His strength was the strength of immobility” (line 82) indicates that Gander is
- A. erratic
 - B. mature
 - C. resolute
 - D. aggressive
68. When Gander and Jo refer to the “square dance” (lines 127 and 128), they mean
- A. military drills
 - B. public fanfare
 - C. acts of bravado
 - D. the farewell dance
69. Gander’s behavior in lines 134 to 148 is prompted MAINLY by
- A. cruelty
 - B. jealousy
 - C. arrogance
 - D. impetuosity
70. Gander’s comment “ ‘That’s the way to lick the enemy’ ” (line 139) expresses his
- A. reluctant admiration
 - B. humorous disposition
 - C. remorse for being fearful
 - D. defensive need to ridicule

